

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 068498

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 COME-00 AGR-05 TRSE-00 TAR-01

L-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SS-15 SP-02 SAB-01 NSC-05

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DRAFTED BY: EB:ORF:OFP:FPD:RSSIMPSON

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ARA/PAN: MR PEASHOCK

ARA/ECP: MR REYNOLDS

EB/ORF/OFP: MR PLACKE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA NIACT IMMEDIATE

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C O R R E C T E D COPY (PARA 2 LINE 14 OMITTED)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR

SUBJECT: 1975 MEAT IMPORT PROGRAM

REF: PANAMA 1637; (B) 61620

FOR AMBASSADOR JORDEN

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES EMBASSY EFFORTS CONTACT AGRICULTURE MINISTRY OFFICIALS TO OBTAIN GOP AGREEMENT REVISED US PROGRAM AND RECOGNIZES DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED (REF A). SINCE, HOWEVER, SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE'S SECOND QUARTERLY ANNOUNCEMENT OF ESTIMATED 1975 MEAT IMPORTS REQUIRED BY LAW NO LATER THAN MARCH 31, AND SINCE LACK OF FIRM AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE FROM PANAMA BY THAT DATE WOULD REQUIRE MODIFICATION OF ANNOUNCEMENT INDICATING THAT FIRM  
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PAGE 02 STATE 068498

EXPORT RESTRAINT COMMITMENTS NOT OBTAINED FROM ALL SUPPLYING

COUNTRIES, YOUR PERSONAL EFFORTS ARE REQUIRED TO HELP AVOID POSSIBLE ADVERSE EFFECT ON PROGRAM, INCLUDING RISK OF CONGRESSIONAL ACTION REQUIRING LOWER LEVEL OF TOTAL IMPORTS.

2. POLITICAL PRESSURE ON WHITE HOUSE AND CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN 1975 LEVEL OF MEAT IMPORTS HAS BEEN INTENSE. A NUMBER OF BILLS HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED WHICH WOULD REQUIRE MEASURES RANGING FROM TOTAL BAN ON IMPORTS (SUCH AS ENACTED

BY EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND JAPAN) TO RESCISION OF PRESIDENTIAL QUOTA WAIVER AUTHORITY. RECENT LETTER TO SECRETARY FROM 32 SENATORS INDICATED CONCERN THAT STATE DEPARTMENT WAS NEGOTIATING PROGRAM ABOVE TRIGGER LEVEL AND DEMANDED BRIEFING BY HIGH RANKING DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL. BRIEFING HELD MARCH 25 REVEALED STRONG INTEREST IN FURTHER REDUCTION IMPORT LEVEL TOWARD QUOTA LEVEL OF 1074 MILLION POUNDS. DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL STATED AT BRIEFING HIS CONFIDENCE THAT FIRM PROGRAM WOULD BE ANNOUNCED WITHIN FEW DAYS BELOW TRIGGER LEVEL (ALTHOUGH NOT MUCH BELOW). SHOULD USG NOW FIND IT NECESSARY MODIFY ANNOUNCEMENT BECAUSE OF LACK GOP RESPONSE, CONGRESSIONAL ACTION COULD BE GIVEN BOOST.

3. IN VIEW ABOVE, REQUEST YOU INTERVENE AT APPROPRIATE LEVEL IN GOP AND ATTEMPT OBTAIN FIRM AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE BY FRIDAY, MARCH 28.

4. AFTER PARA 2 DRAFTED, DEPARTMENT LEARNED THAT SENATE TODAY ADOPTED FLOOR AMENDMENT TO AGRICULTURE BILL PASSED EARLIER BY HOUSE THAT WOULD PROHIBIT MEAT IMPORTS FOR THREE MONTHS. SENATE - HOUSE CONFERENCE REQUIRED AFTER EASTER RECESS. OUTLOOK UNCERTAIN AT THIS TIME, BUT REQUIREMENT TO ANNOUNCE IMPORT ESTIMATE BASED UPON VOLUNTARY RESTRAINT PROGRAM BY MARCH 31 REMAINS. WE WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WHEN AVAILABLE. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AGREEMENTS, MEATS, IMPORT QUOTAS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
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